

Our family also published a newspaper in central New York, and I have always been inspired by Shirley's endless energy, good humor, and, yes, strong opinions on many subjects—a woman after my own heart.

□ 1100

I have also always been inspired by Shirley's tenacity and commitment to informing our community with depth and integrity, something that the Rome Daily Sentinel has always done throughout its history.

In addition to being a publisher, Shirley was a beloved mother of five who was active in her church and a member of our local artist community. Shirley's paintings hang in galleries in our region and live on to evoke wonder and inspire serenity to so many.

Shirley was also an honored member of the Order of Saint Barbara, as well as an honorary member of the Northeast Air Defense Sector. Shirley even helped secure the B-52 bomber displayed in Rome at the entrance to the former Griffiss Air Force Base, which she obtained from the national B-52 museum committee.

On behalf of our community and those in the news business who are committed to serving the public as true members of the fourth estate, we are grateful to Shirley Waters for being our standard-bearer. We are also grateful to her for her distinguished service to our community beyond her role as a newspaper publisher.

Her legacy will continue to live on in so many important ways, from the great newspaper she leaves, the Rome Daily Sentinel, to her work which she also loved, to her works of art that are exhibited throughout our region, and her strong belief in our region's greatness and history.

My deepest condolences to the Waters family on the loss of this wonderful, venerable wife, mother, grandmother, and tenacious community leader with a wonderful sense of humor.

RECOGNITION OF TROOPER KEVIN BEACH

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rome Police Chief Kevin Beach who will retire at the end of January after an incredible career and true devotion to public service.

Kevin first joined the Rome Police Department in September of 1994, following in his father's footsteps. Kevin's father, Bruce, also served the department for many years. Kevin showed leadership early on the job and was promoted quickly to the rank of detective after only 6 years.

In 2005, Kevin was appointed detective commander and then deputy chief in 2007. In 2008, he was appointed as the youngest police chief in the history of the city of Rome.

At just 36, Kevin had served the department for only 14 years but was picked for the top spot because of his exemplary track record and strong leadership skills. Kevin's hard work, dedication, and love for the city was evident every day he was on the job.

During his tenure as chief, the department introduced community programs such as Shop with a Cop, Law Enforcement Day, and the creation of a Community Impact Unit. Kevin has also successfully navigated the department through difficult times through the COVID-19 pandemic and the national defund the police movement.

Kevin, thank you for your lifetime of service and commitment to the city of Rome. We are grateful for your devotion to service on behalf of your community. I also want to thank you for your friendship and sage counsel to me and so many others during your important work as our chief. May you enjoy a productive and healthy retirement.

RECOGNITION OF TROOPER DAVID DRAUDT

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, it is often said that law enforcement officers work for a cause, not applause. This is certainly true and today I would like to recognize a trooper from the southern tier of New York's 22nd district who deserves our applause.

Trooper David Draudt went to work on the morning of November 29 with the intent to protect and serve. Yet, on that day Trooper Draudt not only protected and served his community, but he also called on his extensive training to courageously save the life of an unresponsive 2-year-old boy who had choked himself into unconsciousness. Trooper Draudt didn't lace up his boots that morning intent on saving a life. But that is exactly what he did.

Law enforcement officers do not have the opportunity of choosing who or what they encounter each day. They rely on their training and their knowledge and their experiences to respond with honor, courage, and integrity and, of course, compassion to whatever situation may arise. On November 29, that is exactly what Trooper Draudt did.

Today, our cause is applause; applause not just for Trooper Draudt who saved the life of a child, but to all who answer the call to serve.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 4 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God, our redeemer, preserver, and friend, hear our prayers this day as we seek to live our lives in obedience to You.

For You have not set us apart from this world, but have placed us into our communities, then sent us into positions of authority, so that we would be salt to the Earth; to preserve and protect the ideals on which this country was founded; to enhance and uphold the virtues by which this government was formed; to live our lives according to Your divine Word.

May we not take lightly this extraordinary opportunity You have given us or allow our words or actions to become corrosive or damaging in the exercise of our influence.

Rather, may our faithfulness to Your Word serve the purpose of enhancing the lives of those around us and the purposes for which You have sent us.

Grant us, then, together a peaceful relationship, that the salt that we are and the hallowed responsibilities we share together would serve to glorify You.

In the gift of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

TRANSFORMING BUFFALO'S WATERFRONT

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs law will invest more than \$14 billion this year alone in the Nation's ports and waterways.

In my community, this will provide \$10 million for Times Beach Nature Preserve on Buffalo's Outer Harbor to preserve and improve the natural habitats and parkland.

Once a dumping ground for contaminated Buffalo River sludge, today Times Beach is a vibrant 55-acre home for wildlife and a destination for visitors.

This funding will support work by the United States Army Corps, Buffalo District to fortify the breakwater at